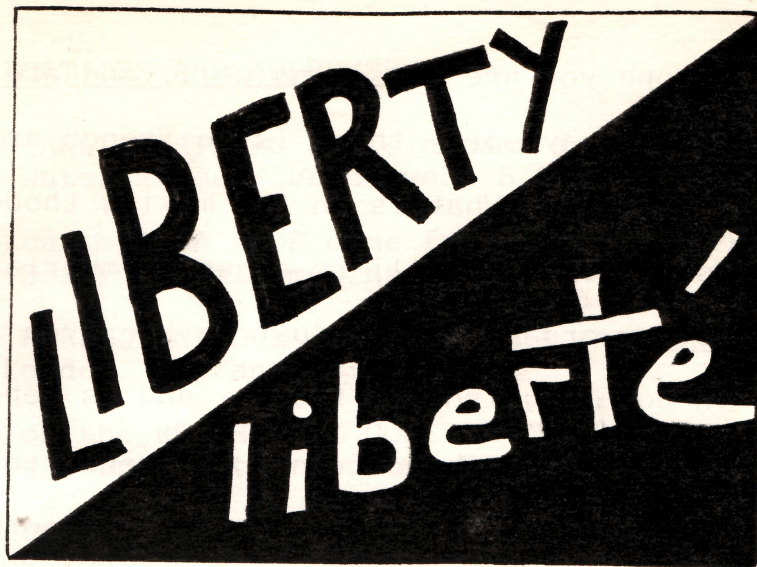




Free!

Until all are free



we are all imprisoned

Greetings folks! Hope you are all doing well, and are in good health. Must start off and say sorry there is no french articles in this first issue of Liberty/liberté. What is in the making though is what may be a tabloid as issue #2. This will be an anti-imperialist statement and politics from a mystery organization (just to keep you in suspense). This will be printed in both english and french, and as seperate papers. If you can help to translate english to french or french to english then please write and help out! Also does anyone have any information and statements, communiques from the F.L.Q.? In english and french?

Liberty/liberté will be a free magazine or tabloid or whatever, and so it will need all the support it can get, especially if you live in Montréal! Please write if you can help out in some way, even if it is just a small part, it would still be important.

Liberty/liberté will be sent to prisoners for free, as far as \$ we have will support this. If you have friends / comrades on the inside that you think would be interested in getting this magazine and other stuff, then please send us their address. Write and send stuff if you want (but no promises folks). Take care, bye for now!

Help your sisters and brothers, work together to find the direction freedom! Revolution is for the poor and dispossessed!

Write to - Liberty/liberté c/o Galerie
Fokus 68 av. Duluth est., Montréal,
Kebek, Canada H2W 1G8

Industrial Workers Of The World

APPEAL FOR HELP APPEAL FOR HELP
APPEAL FOR HELP APPEAL FOR HELP

My name is John Perotti. I am a prison organiser, with the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), and a jailhouse lawyer here at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville, Ohio. I personally am litigating over 25 lawsuits against prison officials for my fellow prisoners, and 15 lawsuits in which I am the plaintiff. I have been beaten by guards on over 15 occasions. I have been sprayed with high powered water hoses, maced, gas grenades thrown in my cell, subjected to humiliating strip searches with lewd comments by guards, all my mail censored, and my family harrassed, all because of my activism in prison. YET, I continue to FIGHT. WE (IWW) are presently attempting to organise the prisoners, and have filed a complaint with the State Employment Relations Board (SERB) in an attempt to classify Ohio prisoners as public employees, in order to obtain safer working conditions, minimum wages, and the right to collective bargaining.

In his fight to unionise the multi-million dollar Ohio Prison Industries, whose captive workers are paid 10 cents an hour and fed like pigs, John Perotti has also been brutally beaten by

guards using boots and truncheons, when he was handcuffed in a wheelchair. Later, when he was on the forty-second day of a hunger-strike and taken to hospital, handcuffed and leg-ironed to a wheelchair, John was seriously assaulted by a group of guards using truncheons, then dragged by the leg-irons to a holding cage six feet by three feet wide where he was severley kicked in the face, head and ribs before being locked in the cage and having a chemical fire-extinguisher sprayed over him. The cage was then opened, and John was struck on the forehead with a pair of steel handcuffs. This caused a gash which later required six stitches in the Emergency Ward of a local hospital. All this for fighting for prisoners' rights and trying to unionise the prison industry. The prison has been officially recognised by the IWW as a job branch of its Public Service Workers' Union but, of course, the State of Ohio, scene of many violent union struggles, is fighting tooth and nail, with unlimited resources, to prevent this coming into effect.

John has, for most of five years, been kept in a J1 Supermax Block. His only clothing is a white jumpsuit. He is stripsearched every time he leaves or enters the block.

BELOW. Prison organiser John Perotti and Paul Poulos (Right) of the IWW, in SOCF.



His hands are cuffed behind his back, and his legs put in irons on every such occasion. He is allowed two one-hour walks per week in a 'dog-kennel', and two showers when is given a 1 inch cube of soap.

John recently lost a court case over lack of medical treatment in the prison, and was ordered to pay costs, which he, of course, cannot afford. Neither can the IWW, a militant, but relatively small organisation. If these costs are not paid, every one of the pending lawsuits against prison officials will be dismissed. ALL of the small gains that have been made, at such a tremendous cost in human courage and suffer-

ing, will be just swept away by the stroke of a clerk's pen. We ask you to make a donation to John's Defence Fund, **NO MATTER HOW SMALL**, to help this courageous fighter in his struggle, before all is trampled by the iron heel of the State.

Thank you for your time. There is a fight going on in this country inside and outside the prison. I hope you can join with us in breaking down the walls so that one day we may all hold hands together in a world free of brutality, exploitation, racism and sexism.

Yours in strength, unity and solidarity,

John P.



ABC TORONTO, P.O. BOX 6326 STN A, TORONTO,
ONTARIO CANADA M5W 1P7 • TEL: (416)947-0808

January 18 1990

Dear Friends;

Through various sources we have been asked for our assistance in an upcoming hungerstrike being staged by IWW prisoner John Perotti in Lucasville Ohio. According to our information, he and two other prisoners are going to go on hungerstrike on February 14, 1990 to push the enclosed demands.

With this in mind we are now initiating and emergency response based on the Emergency Response Network created by the ABC last spring. We ask that people everywhere call, write and telegram the enclosed addresses to help put pressure on the prison. We also feel that media attention from around the world should be focused on this hungerstrike.

The enclosed letter was received by us recently and is the clearest explanation of the goals of the strike. However we have been informed that the proposed date of the strike has been postponed to Feb. 14, so please ignore the original date mentioned in the letter.

As well as this letter, we are activating the phone network closer to the date in order to get across any further developments and final word.

We hope you will be able to help in this fight.

ABC Toronto

LETTER FROM JOHN PEROTTI ABOUT AN INTENDED HUNGER STRIKE AT THE SOUTHERN
OHIO CORRECTIONAL FACILITY STARTING FROM [REDACTED] 1990

NEW DATE: FEB. 14th

1st of January 1990

General Defense Committee Local #3
(John Perotti, section delegate),
Southern Ohio Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 45699,
Lucasville,
Ohio 45699 - 0001.

Dear Robert & Comrades,

I hope that you've all had a happy holiday. 1990 marks the 200 year history of prisons in Amerikkka. As such, we have decided to start the year off right. I am writing this from the Boycar sensory deprivation cell, where my captors put me before Christmas so I could appreciate the accommodations.

Due to the increased repression here, murders and beatings of our comrades by guards, the fact that the control unit remains open and we are subjected to long-term isolation, and the recent railroad done on me, amongst other legitimate reasons, we have decided to repeat the actions of our IRA comrades in H Block. Since armed revolution is not feasible in this section of the prison, we have decided to use a non-violent form of resistance, putting only our lives on the line. Starting on January 22nd, 1990, myself, Sudun Swafford and Michael Day - the only prisoners in the Control Unit - will begin a death fast. Once we spread the word, others will join in.

I am writing to you to spread the word. As you may know, death fasts are not effective without a broad base of outside support. Without that the prisoncrats will allow us to die without anyone knowing the cause or reasons and without pressure being applied on them by publicity, letters & telegrams of protest, news media & airplay publicising our fast, and daily phone calls to the Warden & Director checking on our physical and mental well-being and demanding our conditions be met. Can we count on all of you and the other comrades in Scotland, Australia and overseas to back our play? Will you set up an immediate network to transmit this to all ABC, IWA, WSA, Black Plag and other anarchist, M-L, anarcho-syndicalist and other activists? We are in the process of drafting a formal communique which will follow, but our main demands are:

- 1) Transfers out of state.
- 2) Shut down the Control Unit (J1 - SuperMax).
- 3) Stop Unit Management and Behavior Modifications.
- 4) Allow isolation prisoners all their personal property, literature & contact visits with family.
- 5) Stop the routine beatings, mactings, fire-hosings of prisoners by guards.
- 6) Prosecute all guards who beat & murder prisoners, just as we are prosecuted.
- 7) Provide adequate medical treatment.
- 8) Provide due process in placement and release from isolation.
- 9) Elevate the Pay Scale - a fair day's wage for a fair day's labor.
- 10) Abolish the Death Penalty.
- 11) Lower the periods of incarceration/sentencing laws.
- 12) Formulate a group of private, unbiased citizens to monitor human rights violations in the prisons.

These are just some of our demands. If you will support us , please circulate this letter and contact our local outside networkers whose names and phone numbers are at the top of this letterhead. Please do this as soon as possible and let us know something.

It is time for change, time to pressure the prisoncrats, hopefully others will follow our lead. It's time to TEAR DOWN THE WALLS!

All of our comrades here send send their revolutionary respects to all of you. Do not let us die in vain.

In solidarity,

John
(X333/45)
John Perotti

Write letters of support, details of protests, etc. to:

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD (IWW),
GENERAL DEFENSE COMMITTEE #1,
POST OFFICE BOX 26381,
TROTWOOD, OHIO 45426
U.S.A.

Or phone: Ruben Slaten (513) 475-2653
Rev. Linda Leisure (614) 864-2684

Write letters/telegrams of protest and phone:

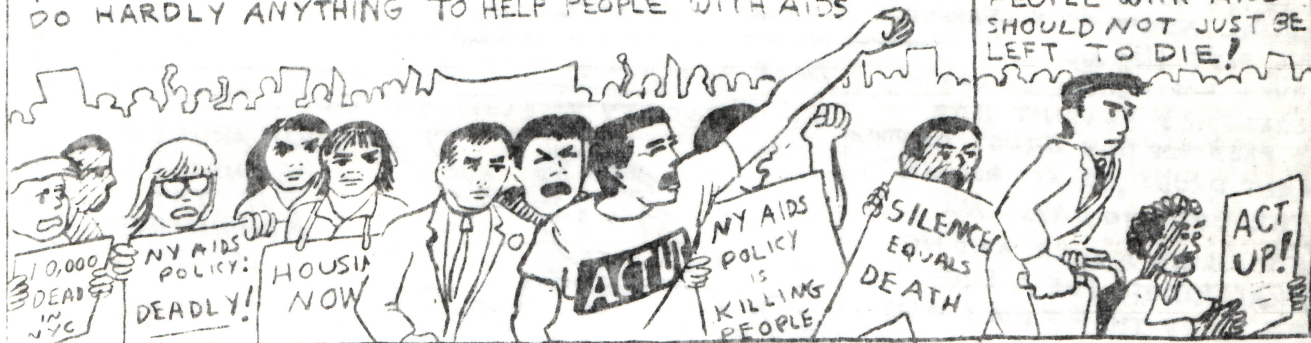
WARDEN Terry L. Morris,
Southern Ohio Correctional Facility,
P.O.Box 45699,
Lucasville,
Ohio 45699-0001

Tel.No. (614) 259-5544

George Wilson,
Department of Rehabilitation & Correction,
1050 Freeway Dr.,
Columbus,
Ohio 43229

Tel.No. (614) 466-6190

MARCH 28, THOUSANDS DEMONSTRATE AT CITY HALL TO PROTEST THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WON'T DO HARDLY ANYTHING TO HELP PEOPLE WITH AIDS

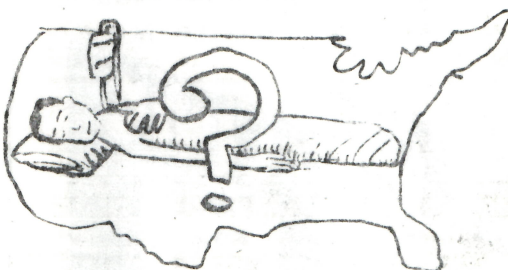


IT'S A GOOD DEMAND. PEOPLE WITH AIDS SHOULD NOT JUST BE LEFT TO DIE!

FORCED TO SPEND ALL THEIR MONEY,



IT MAKES ME THINK ABOUT THE WHOLE QUESTION OF WHO GETS WHAT KIND OF MEDICAL TREATMENT IN THE U.S.



MY ARTWORK DOESN'T MAKE MUCH MONEY SO, I'VE SPENT YEARS IN JOBS WITH HANDICAPPED ADULTS IN BROOKLYN AND N.Y.C. I'VE TAKEN A LOT OF CLIENTS TO A LOT OF HOSPITALS AND DOCTORS. I'VE SEEN A LOT OF SICK PEOPLE TRY TO GET BETTER. I'VE SEEN ALL SORTS OF OBSTACLES PLACED IN THEIR WAY.

FOR 2 YEARS I WORKED WITH HOMELESS MENTALLY ILL PEOPLE IN THE LOWER EAST SIDE. LOTS OF HOMELESS FOLKS HAVE T.B.

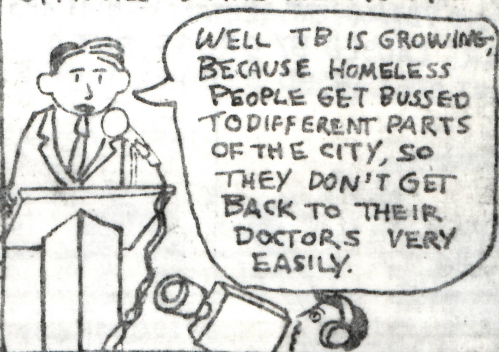
BELLEVUE
EMERGENCY ROOM



THE PAPERS SAY THAT IN N.Y.C., THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH TB IN 1988 WAS 3 TIMES THE NUMBER IN 1987 WHICH WAS 3 TIMES WORSE THAN 1986....

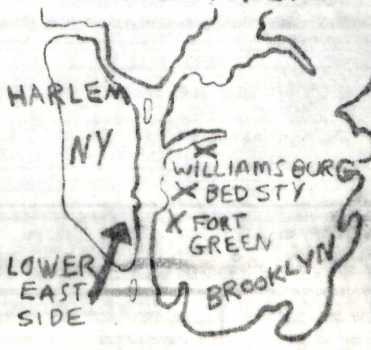


THE GOVERNMENT HASN'T DONE MUCH OF ANYTHING ABOUT THIS. OFFICIALS BLAME THE VICTIMS.



SO WHY DOESN'T THE CITY DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?

TB IN NEW YORK IS MOSTLY IN FIVE AREAS, ALL POOR MOSTLY NONWHITE AREAS

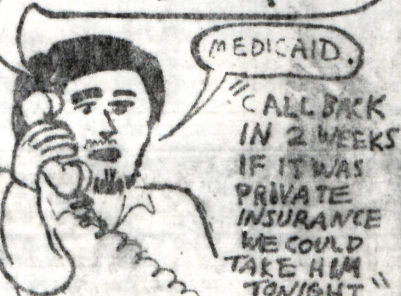


WORKING WITH THE MENTALLY ILL, WE SPENT A LOT OF TIME TRYING TO HELP PEOPLE GET AWAY FROM DRUG PROBLEMS. WE RAN INTO STANDARD PROBLEMS.

HELLO, ONE OF MY CLIENTS WANTS TO GET INTO A DETOX CENTER. HE USES HEROIN



WHAT KIND OF INSURANCE DOES HE HAVE?



AFTER CALLING OVER 20 HOSPITAL NUMBERS I LEARNED THAT NYC HAD NO DETOX SERVICE FOR PEOPLE ON CRACK, UNLESS THEY HAVEN'T HAD ANY PRESCRIPTION DRUGS OR OTHER STREET DRUGS, OR ALCOHOL USE IN THE PAST 90 DAYS. NO MENTAL ILLNESS EVER AND NO PHYSICAL ILLNESS FOR A LONG TIME... AND THERE WAS ONLY A FEW BEDS ANYWAY (SEPT. 88)

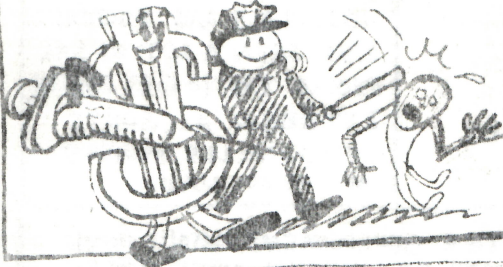
COKE DETOX CENTERS AREN'T PREPARED FOR THE CRACK EPIDEMIC. TO ACCOMMODATE THE OVERFLOW, HOSPITALS CUT THE 29 DAY MINIMUM STAY TO 14 DAYS MAXIMUM.

IT'S TOTALLY USELESS BUT THAT'S THE WAY IT IS.



WE ARGUED AGAINST IT BUT THE ADMINISTRATION INSISTS.

SO I DON'T SEE THE "WAR ON DRUGS" AS HAVING MUCH TO DO WITH HELPING PEOPLE GET OFF A DRUG HABIT



IN FACT, AS SOON AS REAGAN ANNOUNCED HIS "WAR ON DRUGS" HE SLASHED THE BUDGET FOR DRUG TREATMENT

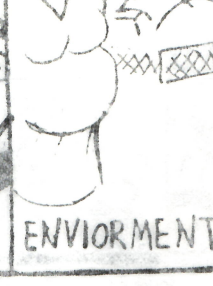
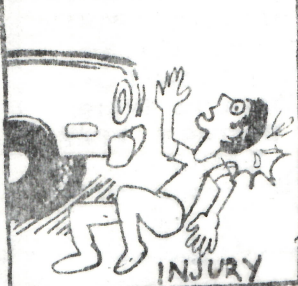


ESPECIALLY FOR THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION



HE ALWAYS TALKS ABOUT HOW HE LOVES NAM VETS

A LOT OF MENTAL ILLNESS AND PERMANENT MENTAL HANDICAPS ARE CAUSED BY DRUGS, BUT A LOT ARE CAUSED BY OTHER THINGS



IN OUR SOCIETY, THE MENTALLY ILL AREN'T SEEN AS SOMEBODY WHO GOT SICK. THEY'RE CONSIDERED FREAKS OR THEY GET BLAMED FOR THE ILLNESS, LIKE THEY WERE WEAK OR BAD OR STUPID. SO THEY GET THE WORST MEDICAL HELP.

ON JOBS, AND IN TRAINING SESSIONS, I LEARNED A LOT OF HORRIBLE STUFF

WILLOW BROOK HAD THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE LIVING IN HELL



IN 1953 THE ARMY HAD JUST GIVEN LOBOTOMIES TO THOUSANDS OF DISILLUSIONED KOREA VETS. NOW WE HAD TO TAKE CARE OF THEM



NEVER GIVE TYLENOL TO ANYBODY! TYLENOL USES CYANIDE TO FILTER SOME OF THE INGREDIENTS SO IT WOULD BE EASY TO HAVE SOME OF THAT CYANIDE RETAINED, CLINGING TO THE INGREDIENTS

1980

WHEN I WAS MARRIED,
MY WIFE GOT A JOB
OFFER TO RUN A HOME
FOR PEOPLE WITH AIDS
ON LONG ISLAND



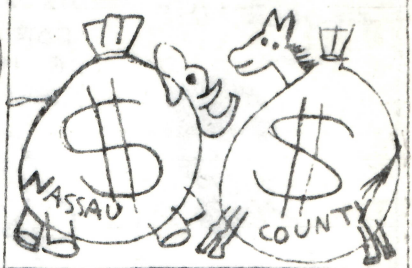
THE FEDERAL GOVERN-
MENT HAD MADE A LAW
THAT SAID PEOPLE WITH
AIDS WOULD HAVE THEIR
LANDLORDS AND EMPLOYERS
NOTIFIED OF THEIR AIDS
IF THEY GET ANY BENEFITS
FROM THE GOVERNMENT:
FOOD STAMPS, MEDICAID,
MEDICARE, PUBLIC ASSIS-
TANCE, RETIREMENT
PAY ETC.

SO...

RENEW
YER
LEASE?
OH!!
YOU MUST
BE JOKEN!



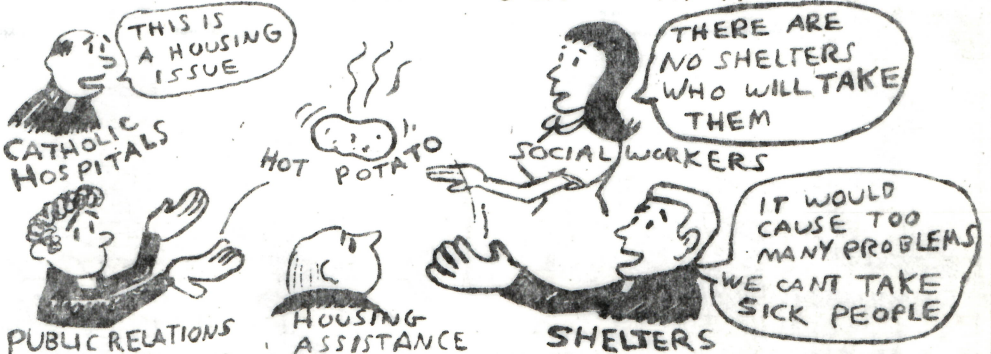
NASSAU COUNTY DIDN'T
WANT TO ENFORCE THIS UNTIL
"THEY HAD TAKEN CARE OF"
FINDING A PLACE FOR THE
HOMELESS FOLKS WITH AIDS



THIS RICH COUNTY
GOVERNMENT
PUSHED IT ON TO
CATHOLIC CHARITIES



WHO WASN'T PREPARED TO DEAL WITH IT



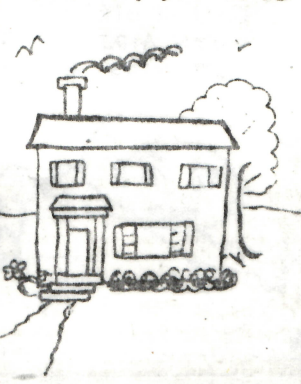
SO, ONCE AGAIN,
THE CHURCH ASKED
ITS RADICAL ELEMENT
TO DO THE TOUGH JOB



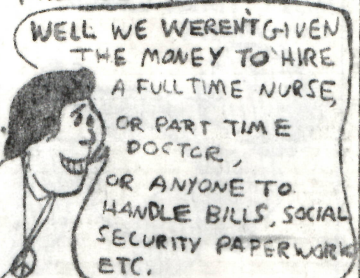
WHICH IS WHERE
WE CAME IN



WORK BEGAN ON
"DOROTHY DAY HOUSE"



PROMISES OF BARE
NECESSITIES QUICKLY
BECAME BROKEN
PROMISES.



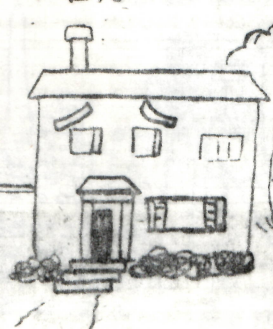
AND THE MEN
WILL HAVE TO
DOUBLE UP.
2 TO EACH
LITTLE BED-
ROOM



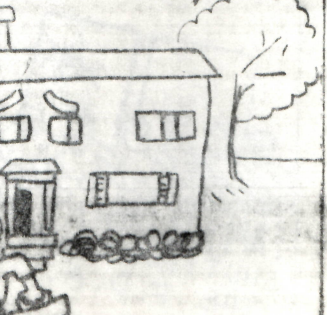
WHICH IS WHERE
ANNIE KNEW IT
WAS TIME TO
LEAVE



THEY OPENED UP
WITH VOLUNTEERS
AND VERY SICK
MEN



AND CLOSED
QUICKLY WITH
SCANDAL AND
TRAGEDY



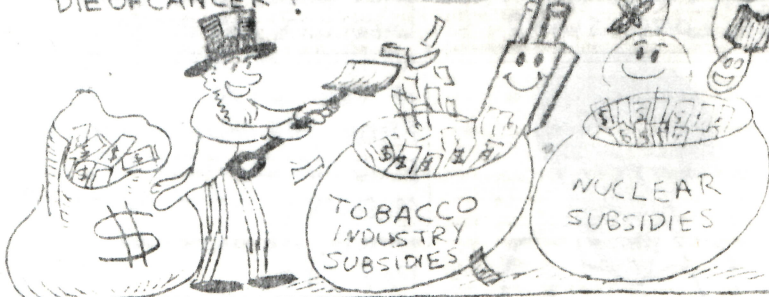
THAT WAS A
STUPID TRAGIC
WAY TO DEAL
WITH HOUSING
PEOPLE WITH
AIDS.



BUT IS IT
UNIQUE?
OR IS IT
BUSINESS
AS USUAL
FOR SICK
OR INJURED
AMERICANS?



HOW DOES THE U.S.
GOVERNMENT RESPOND
TO THE FACT THAT ONE
OUT OF EIGHT AMERICANS
DIE OF CANCER?



WHAT ABOUT OTHER
MAJOR MEDICAL
PROBLEMS?



REMEMBER
SICKLE CELL
ANEMIA?



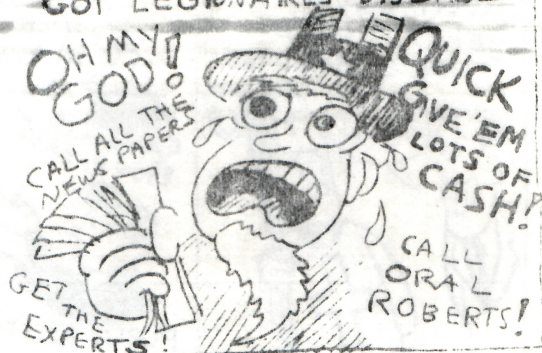
REMEMBER
TOXIC
SHOCK
SYNDROME?

HELP!

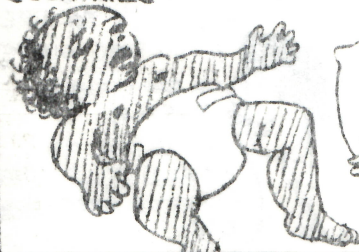
SHE'S ONLY
A WOMAN

BUT WHEN A FEW GOOD MEN
GOT LEGIONAIRE'S DISEASE

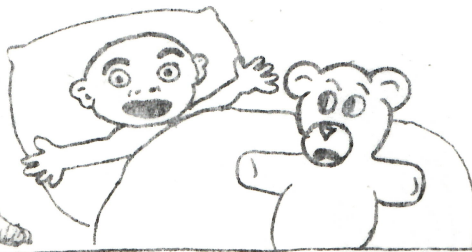
OH MY
GOD!
CALL ALL THE
NEWS PAPERS
GET THE
EXPERTS!



MEANWHILE
BLACK INFANT
MORTALITY IN THE
U.S. IS WORSE THAN
MOST THIRD WORLD
COUNTRIES



WHILE IN THE BRONX, THE
HISPANIC POPULATION IS
GIVING BIRTH TO ONE BABY
WITH AIDS OUT OF EVERY
27 KIDS BORN.

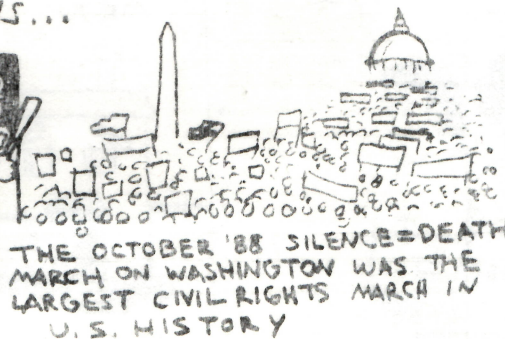
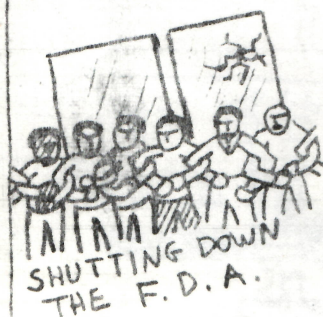


POLIO HAS MADE A
COMEBACK IN NONWHITE
AREAS OF BROOKLYN



SO IT'S GONNA TAKE MORE THAN JUST THE
PRESENT LEVEL OF DEMONSTRATIONS

AND THE LEVEL IS ALREADY VERY MILITANT, VERY DISRUPTIVE, VERY CREATIVE,
VERY LARGE DEMONSTRATIONS...



BUT IT IS
NOT ENOUGH
THE GOVERNMENT
AND BUSINESS
OWNERS WON'T
LISTEN TO
REASON
WHAT WILL YOU
DO?

Children's lives are sad stories in report

Sad stories: That's what you hear about the children who end up in the youth protection system. Camille Messier related some of those tales in her 1989 report on youth protection in Quebec.

Here are three:

■ In 1977, a 5-year-old boy was handed over to another family by his adopted parents. He went through 10 foster families by age 12, when youth protection was alerted to his case. Youth protection found evidence of physical abuse and neglect by foster family No. 10. The child was in a state of "total disorganization."

He spent 18 months in a psychiatric hospital and didn't improve. The foster mother refused any further help, so youth protection went to court to put the child in a rehabilitation centre.

The child progressed and there were plans to return him to a foster family. He wants to live in the country and be a carpenter.

■ A 7-year-old girl started being watched by youth protection in 1979. She was being neglected and there were signs her physical and mental health were endangered while she was home. She was put in a foster home, then returned to her family.

At 13 she was the victim of incest. Her father was prosecuted. The girl was put in a foster home. She refused psychotherapy.

When the father was jailed, the teenager was rejected by her entire family. Her behavior worsened.

She was transferred to a rehabilitation centre, very upset. She improved but then was shaken deeply when her father sent her a letter.

She has not recovered from the abuse at home. She doesn't know what she wants in life. She only knows her mother doesn't want her.

■ An 8-year-old boy was abandoned by his family. He was placed in a foster home. Three years later, the boy was returned to his family.

When the boy was 14, youth-protection officials said he was in moral and physical danger. He was arrested while awaiting his evaluation.

At 16 he was into drugs and other mischief. At first, youth protection left him at home and he agreed to attend a community centre for help.

When he was 17, he was sent to a rehabilitation centre. He didn't adapt well there and did drugs despite the surveillance. He dropped out of school. The centre found him a job in a garage while he lived in a supervised apartment.

— Sarah Scott

Why did four teens die? Answers about detention don't come easily

SARAH SCOTT
THE GAZETTE

Jan 27/90

The deaths of four teenage girls last week in a fire at Le Village detention home in Laval have raised serious questions about how our youth-protection system works and why troubled teens end up in locked rooms.

The answers don't come easily. "Blame is often put on the parents, justly or unjustly," Rev. Leicester Bigby said at the funeral of Christina Cain, 13. But the youth-protection system must

be examined too, he suggested.

Every year Quebec courts place about 2,000 children in rehabilitation centres. Quebec's youth-protection system is struggling to deal with children who have problems that frequently begin at home — sexual abuse, violence, neglect.

Then come drugs, suicide attempts, prostitution, persistent running from home and school, disobedience, or crimes from thievery to murder.

There are no conveniently typical cases.

PLEASE SEE **WHY?**, PAGE A8

WHY? Deaths of 4 girls in a detention-centre fire raise serious questions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Some children have already committed crimes and fall under the federal Young Offenders Act.

Others are victims of abuse; they have begun to act out their anger, but are picked up before they've done anything illegal.

It may seem strange to put abuse victims and junior crooks together in a single residence. But they often have the same kinds of problems and needs, authorities say.

If the court or relatives decide that a child must be removed from the family home, that child can be placed in a number of different settings — from a supervised home in the community to a place like Le Village, a place for girls that has honey touches like curtains and teddy bears in the bedrooms, but is locked at night to stop them from fleeing.

A youth-court judge decides whether children convicted of crimes end up in a locked residence or an open home.

If the court orders or the family agrees that a child must leave home, the youth-protection director decides where the child goes.

The toughest cases go to high-security residences like Le Village. Beds in high-security residences make up 777 of Quebec's total 4,186 places in homes and institutions for troubled children.

Le Village has a swimming pool, a river-side view, volleyball and baseball games for the girls.

Its doors are locked at night to stop the children from escaping, but it was quite open during the day.

"I used to tell the kids: 'If you want to run away, don't hurt anyone. Just skip the fence', one counsellor said sadly after the fire.

Police said the fatal blaze was lit by girls who schemed to escape by triggering an automatic system to unlock the doors at night.

Despite efforts to make it more like a home, Le Village was seen as a place of last resort for troubled teens.

■ Some had been sent there by a youth-court judge for crimes such as drug trafficking, robbery or even murder.

■ Others had been troublemakers at other homes. Counsellors couldn't handle their violent outbreaks or their persistent running away.

■ Some kids were not only runaways but likely to hurt themselves or others if they got out. These girls might be drug pushers or prostitutes, potential suicides or violent types.

■ A final group of children is the "illegals." These are problem children who aren't in enough trouble to need the security of Le Village. They're put there only because there's no room elsewhere in the system.

Every week during the winter and spring, Ville Marie has to bump as many as four children into stricter residences than they need because of overcrowding, says Marcel Croteau, the Ville Marie Social Services official in charge of co-ordinating placements.

Children are regularly put in L'Escale, a waiting room at the youth centre.

with 10 adjoining bedrooms.

There's no school there, no exercise and no therapy. Yet kids sometimes have to stay for a week while officials frantically look for a bed.

One girl accused of a crime was stuck in L'Escale for seven days after the fire. As of yesterday she was still there.

"It's an abrogation of their rights," Ville Marie youth-protection director Robert Vyncke said. Quebec's youth-protection law entitles teens to be placed in a setting that meets their needs.

Placing teens in too strict a home "may also traumatize them more" and provoke more outrage, frustration and rejection of help, he said.

This kind of placement is a symptom of a youth-protection system that's bursting at the seams because it has not expanded to meet the needs of a society in which families are cracking up and violence is on the rise, he said.

This was how one teenager said she ended up at Le Village when she was 15. We'll call her Lucie — her name has to be protected by law.

Lucie is among several girls who called *The Gazette* this week to tell their stories. At 15, Lucie was skipping school, disobeying her parents, staying out late and smoking hashish.

Lucie got suspended from school so often that her mother started threatening her. Lucie took the threats seriously. She had already been the target of physical and verbal abuse from her mother.

A social worker took her to L'Escale. From there she was transferred to Le Village for three weeks because there was no space elsewhere.

Lucie moved several times from shelter to group home, back to her family home, and back to the shelter. She ran away repeatedly. Finally she returned to Le Village last fall.

"They helped me a lot," she said.

"Every time I cried they came to see me. And they gave me very good advice on how to handle my mother."

Lucie is now a waitress, pregnant and

seeking an abortion. She still calls Le Village's staff for advice and appreciates the help.

It's very rare to see a runaway end up in Le Village the first time she enters the youth-protection system, said Croteau.

More typical is another girl who was sent to Le Village after being found guilty of drug-dealing. Let's call her Anne. Again, her name can't be revealed since she's under 18.

Counsellors said Anne got into trouble after being sexually abused at home.

"I was there for seven months and they really do care about you," Anne said when she called *The Gazette*.

"I was going the wrong way. I used to do bad things, steal, beat up people. I was a violent type of person. But they changed me for the better, not for the worse."

Anne went to school at Le Village, did volunteer work and went to movies. Now she's out, finishing high school and working part-time "thanks to the help I got."

Not all the girls who called *The Gazette* felt that way.

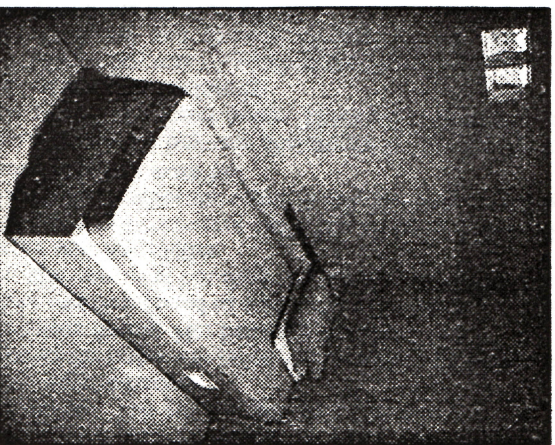
"They put criminals in with runaways," complained a 16-year-old girl who has been in Le Village "five or six times."

She says she's on the run now: "I'm safer out here than I am in the system."

Le Village and other high-security homes are just one part of a much larger youth-protection system that sees about 2,000 Quebec children placed in rehabilitation centres each year, says a 1989 report by the Commission de protection des droits de la jeunesse.

Researcher Camille Messier studied 167 children who had gone through the system and discovered that only 14 per cent of them were in high-security homes like Le Village.

But Messier's study uncovered one disturbing fact about children who graduate from the rehabilitation centres: About 30 per cent have no family support when they leave the centre, and they must start their adult life virtually alone in the world.



Bedroom doors are locked at night.

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Split personalities tied to child abuse

*Many child sexual abuse victims create
multiple personalities as a survival mechanism*

By KATE LAZIER

While incest and child abuse are slowly being acknowledged by society, more and more frontline workers are grappling with one of abuse's more debilitating legacies — multiple personality disorder (MPD).

Five hundred participants, mostly social workers and psychologists, as well as many adult survivors of child abuse, crowded OISE auditorium Friday night (January 26) to kick off a weekend conference and hear the latest on the disorder from Canadian pioneers in the field.

One of them, Margo Rivera, is the director and founder of Education/Dissociation, a government-funded project which aims to widen community awareness about MPD and educate professionals about treatment.

"What's happening here is the explosion of a field," Rivera says. "We've moved from the 50s when people were declaring multiple personalities extinct, to having very solid research that suggests that close to 1 per cent — and we're afraid to say it — of the population has multiple personalities, if preliminary data is confirmed. This would mean that 30,000 people in Toronto are suffering from multiple personalities."

Piqued interest

Rivera's interest in MPD was piqued in 1983 while she was a social worker in a children's aid society program for victims of sexual abuse.

"A woman arrived in my office and started dissociating floridly before my eyes. I knew nothing about multiple personalities."

Rivera found no one in Toronto who could help her but soon became part of a network of professionals specializing in MPD through travels to American conferences. At such events, she gradually met other Canadians, often also working in isolation in other cities.

In simple terms, victims develop multiple personalities as a way of

H E A L T H

distancing or "dissociating" themselves from the abuse they suffer, she says. Dissociation describes the severing of one state of consciousness from another within the same person.

This is not in itself abnormal — people dissociate while daydreaming, for example — and multiple personalities are simply extreme expressions of it, Rivera says. So when the abuse becomes unbearable, the child transports him- or herself away from the situation and into the character of another personality.

If abuse is prolonged over a long period of time, dissociation will fundamentally structure the way in which the survivor confronts the adult world, says Rivera. Multiples have an average of eight to 15 different personalities, usually including aggressive and child personalities. MPD is often mistaken for schizophrenia, itself a controversial notion.

Of course, not all abuse victims develop the disorder. The determining factor that decides whether a child will develop MPD lies in his or her ability to move into an altered state of consciousness — or to be hypnotized, she says. It is a capacity that is distributed in the population independently of sex, class or race and is often found in actors and other artists.

"What we're seeing here is an outgrowth of a disordered social system. Multiple personality is not a mental illness nor is it biologically based. It's much more like an organizational strategy, a survival mechanism."

Statistics now show that 97 per cent of multiples have suffered some kind of abuse, while nine out of 10 of these cases are female.

"I think women probably get abused more often and more severely as children. However, I don't think it's nine to one. What we're probably seeing is a reporting difference. Because of differences in male/female socialization, women end up in treatment centres and men end up in other situations, like jails."

NEW MAGAZINE Feb 1-7 1990

FORBIDDEN LOVE

Too often we forget that we have grown up in this society. We might be rebelling now due to our economic conditions or our desires for adventure, but we still have been shaped by this society. Schools, newspapers, friends, parents, churches, television: they all have influenced us into a certain range of thought. They don't want just one single attitude (which would be impossible anyway considering the complexity of our personalities), but a whole range of thoughts, feelings and beliefs that can be conflicting. It is very difficult to lose them all - but at least we can talk about obedience, isolation, division, fear, acceptance, basic conservatism and so on.

That these attitudes are inside our heads and are a major barrier to transformation of our lives cannot be denied. Our desires for a 'better life' are desires for living together as equals, living in harmony, living for pleasure, controlling our lives. The process of how we reach our desires and beyond is polarised. There is a lot of activity in therapy and a lot in straight political work, but nothing much in between.

When we fight, we can lose our sensitivity. The battle of everyday life crushes us. We're not unfeeling and unthinking monsters - but that possibility exists. We've got to relax and love each other - while still bashing the cops.

Of course we have to challenge and heal all the accumulated rubbish in our heads, and be aware of how this affects our personal ways of relating. But we have to realise that we are living in a capitalist society - otherwise our activities will be forever frustrated. We cannot be 'non-sexist', 'living in harmony' or whatever while we still suffer from capitalism. Capital will not go away just because we pretend we are free. Capitalism will only be destroyed by a mass working class movement - and that means revolution. That is the only way we will be able to free ourselves.

But capitalism will not go away if just attack the state and the bosses out there, whilst forgetting all the roles and attitudes that have been imposed upon us by society's conditioning and that we have accepted to some degree. Or else we will be left with the same old shit. We have to start acting in ways towards each other which benefit our existence and not our rulers - we have to start valuing each other

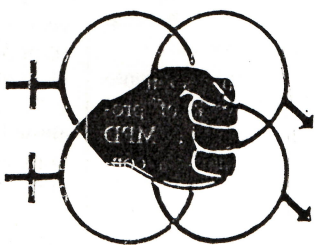
rather than devaluing ourselves and the people around us.

A good way of breaking down the divisions between ourselves and therefore making our groups and activities more effective is through games. This is not some liberal rubbish. It can be a lot of fun and can bring us closer to each other without being formalistic - as long as playing games does not become formalistic in itself. We can see how we oppress ourselves and others, and start to learn our own ways of relating. Sometimes we play 'power games' with each other, we put each other down - 'more radical than thou', 'more knowledgeable than thou', etc - as a way of proving how 'big' we are. This is shit. We have got to start breaking this down and respecting each other.

Often meetings can become tense, boring and stressful. Everyone walks away feeling dissatisfied and discontented. It is vital that meetings are not seen as some worthy duty. Meetings should be fun and enjoyable. One way of achieving this is by having regular breaks and discussions on how we all feel. This is not a 'diversion' from 'political work'. This is very political: our own needs, desires and feelings.

In a group it is very interesting to see people's roles. One way of showing this is through giving everyone in the group the same number of matchsticks at the beginning of a meeting. Each time someone speaks, s/he has to throw a matchstick into the middle, and when someone has run out of matches, they can't speak again. It's a way to place limits on dominant speakers and help encourage everyone to

speak. If a group is to be effective and strong, it is important to trust each other - and often games can help to build up trust. One way is to divide into pairs; one person is blindfolded and led by the other. After a set time the positions are swapped.



Until we start to combine our struggle against the state and capitalism out there and the state within us, we'll remain stagnant. There is an old saying 'we are the state'. In some ways we are: our misery could not survive without our co-operation. But there is an external state - it is what has shaped us and is controlling our lives. Someone once said 'the state is a condition, a certain relationship between people, a way of human behaviour, and we destroy it when we contract different relationships and behave in a different way'. The smashing of the state must be both an internal and external process. We must all learn to more open and stronger, we must learn to hug and be angry, to fight and to cry.

Two books worth reading are 'In Our Own Hands' (a book on self-help therapy) by Ernst and Goodison and 'Resource Manual for a Living Revolution' by Corver, Deacon, Esser and Moore.



MAD

If someone is on tranquillisers, try to

WORKINGFOLK UNITE

(by E.S. Nelson from the 1909 edition of the IWW Songbook.)

Conditions they are bad,
And some of you are sad;
You cannot see your enemy,
The class that lives in luxury.
You working folk are poor -
Will be forevermore -
As long as you permit the few
To guide your destiny.

[Chorus]

Shall we still be slaves and work for wages?
It is outrageous - has been for ages;
This earth by right belongs to toilers,
And not to spoilers of liberty.

The master class is small,
But they have lots of gall;
When we unite to gain our right,
If they resist we'll use our might;
There is no middle ground,
This fight must be one round.
To victory, for liberty,
Our class is marching on! [chorus]

Workingfolk, unite!
We must put up a fight,
To make us free from slavery
And capitalistic tyranny;

This fight is not in vain.
We've got a world to gain.
Will you be a fool, a capitalist tool,
And serve your enemy? [chorus]

Racist and sexist ideology is seemingly etched on our souls.
Is it hereditary this dis-ease?
I wish that it was just enough to renounce these things.
To say 'I reject racism and sexism' and then poof it be gone,
just like that.
Too bad for us it is not that simple.
Our eyes have been closed for so long, and not a sound has
reached our ears.
We have to learn these things anew, like a newborn child.
To reach out with open eyes and ears.

Beer bottles, coke and cars.
A constant reminder of how truly superior we are.
You mean you didn't know that beer bottles, coke and cars
are more important than life itself?
Hell boy they'll run you over 12 times to make sure you're
dead, but first they'd shove beer bottles up your ass and
pour coke all over your open wounds.
Their lying justifications for the slaughter,
keeps your head spinning. And while you're twirling around,
your friends daughter is being raped by her father.
What are you going to do?
It's like there's writing all over every wall and it says,
'That's just the way things are', in a sort of low
official sounding voice.

The sun is setting over far distant mountains.
The river is flowing and the evening is calm.
A light cool breeze is refreshing.
The smell of pine, the song of the birds.
You sit among thousands of trees in an endless forest.
Your roots are in the Earth.
The sky is a bit cloudy, they tell you ancient stories about life.
Your heart is balanced, your mind is like a deep ocean,
with few waves...

Mamère (Grandmother)

By Raymond Luc Levasseur
Northamerican Anti-Imperialist Political Prisoner
Hartford FDC

the blues say if you born under a bad sign
you got trouble
you born in the shadow of the mills
you born near a river
and you got more trouble still

memère walked thru that shadow
to work at 13
to work you understand
as a child
to breath that dust
work that machine &
find her husband
who'd been there since 13

an unlucky # you say? no
french-canadian french-speaking catholic
proud sensitive loving hardworking &
exploited

1 of 11 children
who had children
who took in other children &
bro & i
when the next generation of women
went into the mills and shoe factories

that alone should tell you something bout
strength

she read the cards &
told the fortunes
for those with broken hearts
dismal jobs & uncertain futures

when urban renewal flattened their apt
they built a small house in the country
that was pleasant for a spell till
the mill caught up with pepere &
he'd breath hard & shake & sometimes fall
in the chicken coop
then i'd come to lift him in my arms &
put him in the kitchen
where memère cleaned him up &
rolled a bull durham
which she had to hold
cause his hands shook so much

she took him to the v.a.
but neither could stand the shock
of neglect
so he came home to die

the govt gave her the coffin flag &
\$22 a month pension
not enuff for eye drops she'd say
then the little house was gone &
to avoid the poor house on the hill
she moved in with her daughter, my ma
who worked 2 jobs to keep the wolf
from the door

memère burned the holy candle
when i was in 'nam &
put it out with relief
when i returned only
to light it again
the day i got out of prison



she loved all her children
holding each of us
to her bosom
over decades of time
thru each sickness
celebration &
bout with the blues

her dream was that
we'd finish school
("no quittin" she'd say)
& make the great escape
from the mills
which some did & some didn't
back home where women still
hold up half the sky
but without unions
on assembly lines
that boss says is for
"soft brains and nimble fingers"
makin circuit boards 'stead a shoes
with husbands more quick to split &
where stamps help feed the kids

she died while i was underground
the fbi hangin from trees
at catholic cemetery
cause they knew i was close
to her
but i wasn't there
didn't even know she'd died
till some pig laid it on me
trying to pry out information

Liberation

By Dylcia Pagan
Puerto Rican Prisoner of War
FCI Pleasanton

I send a revolutionary embrace to all of you
celebrating today, International Womens Day.
My spirits are high knowing all of you out-
side continue to struggle against U.S.
Imperialism. Conditions here change daily,
consistent with the inconsistency of prison
life. Sometime in the not too distant
future, we will be moved to our new locale,
Marianna, Florida. Usually after years of
imprisonment, eight for us,* conditions
improve, but not within the federal system.
What awaits us is a new model "control self-
contained unit." Nevertheless, we remain
strong and extend a special salute to our
dear comrades confined in the Lexington
control unit. I would like to share this
poem I wrote with you.

Liberation

Liberation comes from within
One must first realize oppression,
close differences
the conditioning of both men and women.

I am because I feel
I feel because I am aware of the differences
Yes we are equal, different but can grow
to express
the same emotions and commitment.

before death she'd been sick
with the feds at the docs
probing how much could she take
how many questions to ask
an old mill woman
of the doc
who'd received their flyer
with our kids on it
saying snitch if these kids
come to you sick

but all she said was
"I hope I see him before I die"
see - with her eyes filled with
glaucoma & cataracts & cornea trouble
damn near blind
pigs gone she'd retrieve
her magnifying glass &
look at the pictures
of underground children
i'd sent her
incl her namesake
simone eva
that she'd never met
but loved
cause we felt it
cross the shadows &
troubles
memêres love
helped hold us strong.

For more info on the Ohio 7, contact the
Sedition Committee, P.O. Box 1418, Cathedral
Station, New York, NY 10025

All genders feel
Men and Women cry
Men and Women can struggle together
Men and Women can fight together and
create a new way of seeing.

Years of oppression have created a
separateness
that solely benefits the elite (those with
economic power)
Liberation is about both of us together
being able to envision a new society
and taking the responsibility to promote
change.

Come comrades, stand by each other
side by side, growing, sharing together
Creating a human wall of Resistance
relentless, prepared to fight, that leads
to the beauty of Liberation.

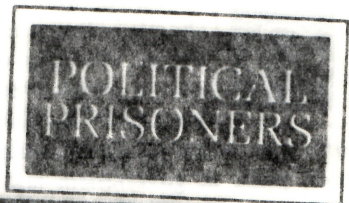
Long Live International Womens Day
Palestine Lives
Viva Puerto Rico Libre y Socialista!

*Ed. note: Dylcia Pagan, is a Puerto Rican
Prisoner of War, who along with 9 comrades,
was arrested in April 1980, in Evanston, IL
and convicted of Seditious Conspiracy. She
is currently at Pleasanton FCI in California.



RESISTANCE CONSPIRACY TRIAL

BY SUSIE DAY



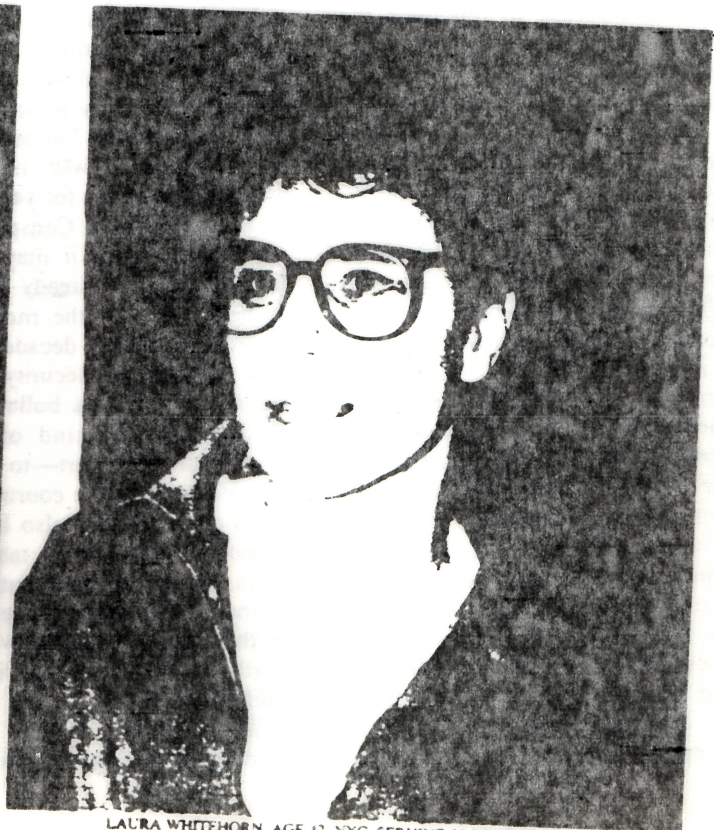
SUSAN ROSENBERG, AGE 33, NYC, SERVING 58 YEAR SENTENCE



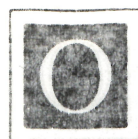
LINDA EVANS, AGE 43, TEXAS, SERVING 35 YEAR SENTENCE



MARILYN BUCK, AGE 42, TEXAS, SERVING 70 YEAR SENTENCE



LAURA WHITEHORN, AGE 42, NYC, SERVING 35 YEAR SENTENCE



ON NOVEMBER 7, 1983, shortly after the United States invasion of Grenada, a bomb went off at the Capitol building. It was one in a series of four bombings that took place at government and military sites over a period of a year in the Washington, D.C. area. Accompanied by bulletins stating that these were political actions in protest of U.S. military atrocities overseas, the explosions caused some property damage, but killed or injured no one. In May 1988, after a massive effort on the part of the FBI, the government singled out seven people and charged them with the bombings. U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Jay Stephens announced the indictment at a Washington press conference: "Let this be a warning to those who seek to influence the policies of the United States through violence or terrorism that we will seek unrelentingly to bring them to justice."

The defendants—Alan Berkman, Timothy Blunk, Marilyn Buck, Linda Evans, Susan Rosenberg, and Laura Whitehorn (Elizabeth Duke remains outside custody)—are North American anti-imperialists, and say that they support armed struggle as one means among many of resisting oppression. They have pleaded not guilty to the charges, yet refuse to renounce their revolutionary politics or to reveal any information they might have of other radical groups. Instead, they question the legality of U.S. government policies. Laura Whitehorn speaks: "Who says what's illegal, and who says what's violent? I mean, the U.S. government refused to go to the World Court when the Nicaraguans were charging them with mining the harbor at Corinto. They're fugitives from justice, internationally. And violent? This government is completely fraught with violence. You starve people in this country and that's violent; you sterilize women against their will and that's violent. And so, if you look at the very acts we're charged with, the Capitol bombings were a response to the invasion of Grenada. Which one was really more violent? And which one hurt people? And which one didn't?"

The government has acknowledged that it does not know who carried out the Capitol bombings. It has neither

direct evidence nor witnesses to confirm the participation of any of the accused. All the defendants are life-long community activists, and all, except Whitehorn and Berkman, carry previous prison sentences of at least 35 years. If convicted of these charges, they could be sentenced to as many as 45 more years in prison.

THESE DEFENDANTS are life-long community activists. They are also part of a growing number of progressive and left-wing prisoners in the United States, incarcerated

through the united efforts of right-wing judicial campaigns and FBI surveillance. Some have already spent years of their lives in prison conditions scientifically designed by the government's "anti-terrorist" program to erase their political identities. Yet almost no one knows these prisoners exist. Whether the Left hears about this case, and whether it decides to see these defendants as "terrorists" or as human beings are issues that will help determine political awareness for years to come.

The Resistance Conspiracy trial, as the defendants call it, may not begin for months, yet it is already showing signs of being one of the most politically controlled trials in decades. Stating the need to maintain security, the government has erected a bullet-proof plexiglass wall—the kind often seen in South African court—to separate the defendants from the courtroom. Special video cameras have also been installed to monitor the defense table and spectators, but not the prosecution. Ironically, these "precautions" are being taken in the same building where Oliver North was tried last spring, without shields or cameras.

The question arises: Why is the government taking the trouble to pros-



TIM BLUNK, AGE 32, NEW JERSEY, SERVING 38 YEAR SENTENCE

ecute people with virtual life sentences, in an atmosphere likely to render an impartial trial by jury almost impossible? Mary O'Melveny, attorney for Susan Rosenberg, responds: "This is a government that hasn't hesitated to strike out at people who it thinks represent resistance and who have the potential to encourage other people to start protesting with more than just the conventional picket signs. Why [spend] the taxpayers' money—it's going to cost millions of dollars to try this case—why? To make a point. To make a point that says to people: 'Shut up. And don't even consider stepping out of very narrow bounds of protest.' That's what I think this case is all about."

Having no direct evidence to convict these defendants, the prosecution has constructed an indictment charging them with aiding and abetting and with conspiracy to "influence, change, and protest policies and practices of the United States government concerning various international and domestic matters through the use of violent and illegal means." These are ingenuously broad charges, which define guilt for an illegal political action as anything from directly participating in the action to being a member of a group that is ac-



ALAN BERKMAN, AGE 43, NEW YORK, SERVING 12.5 YEAR SENTENCE

cused of carrying it out. Moreover, if this indictment is successful, similar charges might be brought in the future against such relatively innocuous protests as weaponless blockades of the Pentagon.

Conspiracy charges are generally easy to prove. By using circumstantial evidence, the prosecution can show that the six held the same radical views and commitments. Once the defendants' "terrorist" leanings are established, a jury might have little trouble seeing a conspiracy in the uncontested fact that, at some point in their lives, several of the defendants shared membership in the same political groups. In a letter to Rep. Ron Dellums, attorney William Kunstler describes the scope of the charges: "The structure of the indictment will allow the government to convict people of substantive acts solely by proving association or 'membership' in an organization opposed to U.S. policies."

ACCORDING TO defense attorneys, much of the government's evidence will consist of the defendants' own political writings, exempt here from First Amendment protection. This, along with the government's guilt-by-

association strategy, could lower the chill effect in progressive communities to well below freezing. It is enormously inhibiting to think that one's own political observations, if they are written down and coincide with an illegal action, could result in a prison sentence. According to Freedom Now, a national organization advocating human rights for political prisoners, there are already over 200 people in U.S. jails for alleged crimes against federal policies. This figure includes "prisoners of war," such as Black and New African Nationalists, who see themselves a part of oppressed nations within the United States, and therefore not subject to its laws. The government, in refusing to acknowledge that it holds political prisoners, effectively isolates these people—most of whom are people of color—from their communities. "It's an issue for the whole progressive movement," says Laura Whitehorn. "Because if people start to understand that this country has political prisoners, then that means that there are social issues and social struggles that are legitimate and that are being denied."

WHITEHORN HAS been active in Black liberation movements and women's communities for over 20 years. Arrested for weapons possession in 1985, she has yet to be tried on those charges. Yet under the Bail Reform Act, she continues to be held in preventive detention, over four years after her arrest. The Bail Reform Act, one in a series of recent laws purportedly designed to "control crime," has been used to detain virtually every leftist and progressive defendant since the Act was passed in 1984. Whitehorn's attorney,

Nkechi Taifa, observes that if her client were not, in fact, a political prisoner, she would have been released on bail years ago.

Besides denying the existence of its political prisoners, the government also refuses to acknowledge that leftist protest bombings have had a fairly substantial history in the United States. Along with sit-ins, boycotts, and mail campaigns, they helped make up the anti-war movement in the 1960s and early 1970s. From January 1969 to April 1970 alone, reports the Treasury Department, there were over 5,000 political bombings across the country. Says Marilyn Buck: "I think it's important to realize that people who were charged with the same kinds of acts in the early 1970s were not called terrorists. They were called political extremists or revolutionaries. But in the last decade, the propaganda thrust has been to create this field of terrorism in order to obscure the role of terrorism of the state."

In the late 1960s, Buck was among the first to introduce women's liberation into the SDS agenda. She worked for years in support of Mexicano and Black liberation groups. In August 1988, she and Dr. Mutulu Shakur, a New African freedom fighter, were convicted of a series of actions attributed to the Black Liberation Army, including aiding in the prison escape of Black activist Assata Shakur. Before the Resistance Conspiracy Trial begins, Buck, at 42, faces 70 years in prison.

Right-wing defendants almost invariably receive lighter sentences than defendants who oppose government policy. Don Black, for example, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, was arrested while attempting to invade the Caribbean island of Dominica with a boatload of illegal weapons, in order to set up a drug cartel. He was given a three-year sentence and was out in 24 months.

LINDA EVANS, on the other hand, organized so effectively against racism in Black, Chicano, and women's communities that the Klan put her on its death list. To protect herself, she purchased four guns using false identification, was arrested, and sentenced to 40 years in prison—by the same Louisiana district that tried Don Black. At 42, she is now serving a reduced

sentence of 35 years, and is routinely referred to by prison staff as a "terrorist." "That's why it's important to me to talk to people," Evans says, "to have people understand that, even if they disagree with the actions we're accused of having done, that we're all part of the same movement, and we depend on each other."

The peripheral effects of the government's "anti-terrorist" program have made even some pacifists appear dangerous. Plowshares activists, draft resisters, and sanctuary workers are now in prison for nonviolent opposition to the state. They face as many as 18 years in prison, and their sentences are getting longer.

"What put us in jail in the first place," says Susan Rosenberg, "is that we made a commitment to say it's possible to resist the strongest state in the world." Rosenberg worked for years as an acupuncturist in a Bronx hospital, treating the drug addiction and "chemical warfare" that she saw as systematically inflicted on Black and Latino communities. Like each of her co-defendants, she recognized at some point in her political history that racism is the linchpin of governmental control. As a white woman, she says, being an anti-imperialist means supporting self-determination for oppressed peoples within this country, as well as liberation struggles overseas. It is the alliances that she and her co-defendants have made with radical Black and Puerto Rican groups that have made the six phenomenally threatening to the government.

IN 1984, Rosenberg and Tim Blunk were arrested for weapons possession and false identification. They were convicted and sentenced to 58 years in prison. Blunk, the youngest of the six, was a student activist with Palestinian and Black liberation groups in the late 1970s. At the age of 32, he has already spent two years in the Marion prison for men in Illinois, the only U.S. prison regularly monitored by Amnesty International, in part because it is under continuous lock down.

"Lock down" is a modified form of solitary confinement, in which prisoners are isolated in tiny, often windowless, cells for 23 hours each day. They are allowed out for one hour, in handcuffs and leg shackles, to shower

and make phone calls. It is a form of incarceration familiar to U.S. political prisoners, such as former Black Panther leader Geronimo Pratt, who has spent eight years in such conditions. All the Resistance Conspiracy defendants were locked down for several months in Washington, until a legal campaign lessened their restrictions.

The Bureau of Prisons, having largely given up the idea of rehabilitation, the Bureau of Prisons is coming to see its role as one of maintaining social as well as political control. Eighty percent of U.S. prisoners are Black, Latino, or Native American—unwanted sectors of U.S. society; "minorities" in terms of the overall population. It is in the interest of social "order," then, to maintain a pervasive climate of fear and hostility among inmates. Tim Blunk describes the guards at Marion: "They don't carry those clubs for nothing. The times that there are physical confrontations, the odds are overwhelming.... There are only six people on a tier, and all the officers carry body alarms. They hit those buttons and there will be 70 [guards] with their riot batons in a minute. And then they'll go to work..."

Beaten less frequently than men, women are usually controlled by threat of guards' sexual attacks against them. "By their rules," says Laura Whitehorn, "they are permitted to do just about anything to us." The pretext of searching for contraband allows officials to rape women with speculums or hands. On the day that Susan Rosenberg arrived at the infamous Lexington High Security Unit, "I and another political prisoner were taken in handcuffs to the hospital where we were informed that rectal and vaginal examinations were to be performed. We were told not to resist so it would 'go easier.' We were cuffed at the feet and then cuffed behind the back. Five women officers forced me into a bent position, took down my pants, and held me while a male physician forcibly rammed his fist into my anus and vagina, causing me to hemorrhage. No 'contraband' was found."

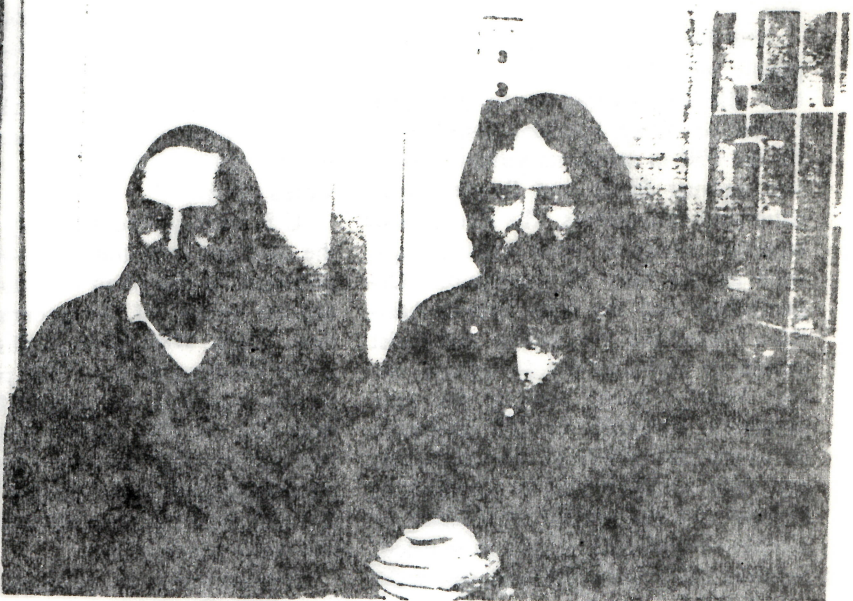
PRISONERS in the general population are randomly brutalized as a matter of course; political prisoners are usually isolated from the general population and systematically abused, explicitly because they hold progressive ideas.

Writing for *Social Justice*, professor Gilda Zwerman cites several studies by criminal justice scholars who view people such as the Resistance Conspiracy defendants as "political terrorists." These prisoners are, according to "experts," immune to traditional punishment, which only validates their self-concepts as threats to the state. The solution, then, is "incapacitation"—the concentrated denial of individual and political identity. Isolation units are becoming a devastating means toward that end. Interestingly, the Bureau of Prisons has built two such units exclusively for women. The first was the High Security Unit at Lexington, Kentucky, where Rosenberg was held.

Told that they had a "one-way ticket" to the Unit unless they renounced their politics, political prisoners Susan Rosenberg and Silvia Baraldini and prisoner of war Alejandrina Torres spent almost two years in the colorless underground silence of the HSU, totally cut off from the outside world. In order to observe the long-term effects of stress and sensory deprivation, windows were covered and fluorescent lights glowed continually, so that it became impossible to tell what time of day or year it was. The women were constantly surveyed, even while showering and sitting on the toilet, by a battery of cameras and hostile male guards.

Although they had been designated "violence prone" by the Bureau of Prisons, none of these women had ever been convicted of injuring or assaulting another person. In his report to the ACLU, psychologist Richard Korn noted the mental and physical deterioration of these women: "One of the women voiced her anxiety by saying, 'They're trying to kill us. But they'd rather we kill ourselves.'"

ISOLATION UNITS and the bloodless torture that accompanies them are not new, nor are they limited to the United States, writes Mary O'Melveny in an article for *Covert Action* on the Lexington HSU. They were first developed by the Nazis in their experiments...in Dachau. Isolation has also been a calculated factor in Nelson Mandela's years of confinement at Pollsmoor High Security Prison. "White cells" or "dead wings" have been used by West Germany for various anti-government



PHOTOS BY DIANE NELSON

groups, including the Red Army Faction, some of whom have endured as many as 18 years of isolation at Stammheim Prison. Clearly, Western "democracies" have collaborated in more than mere trade agreements. Susan Rosenberg observes: "The Germans studied Marion, and the people who built the Lexington High Security Unit studied Stammheim.... It's the anti-terrorist program of NATO and the United States that is responsible for the development of repressive forms."

Although the Lexington HSU was closed by court order in 1988, the government has appealed the court's decision. Yet even if Lexington remains

closed, the recently-opened Shawnee Unit for women in Marianna, Florida, bears watching. Reports are that it has duplicated most of Lexington's horrors and is introducing others, such as overcrowding. O'Melveny says it's certain that if they are convicted of the DC bombings, Evans, Buck, Rosenberg, and Whitehorn will be sent to Marianna, while Berkman and Blunk will be returned to Marion.

Silently running through the Resistance Conspiracy case is the role of the FBI in getting these defendants to prison and keeping them in some of the worst possible conditions. Susan Rosenberg reports that, after she was

transferred from Lexington, her attorney discovered that the FBI's Joint Terrorist Task Force has urged that she be sent to the HSU and Alan Berkman to Marion.

YEARs BEFORE his imprisonment, Berkman worked as a doctor in poor communities of New York, Alabama, and Boston. He treated the injured at Wounded Knee when the Oglala people were under siege by the FBI in 1973. Like each of his codefendants—and like thousands of other activists across the country—Berkman was subject to years of FBI surveillance. In 1982, Berkman was visited in

his office by an agent from the Joint Terrorist Task Force, who offered him \$50,000 to become an informant. "And if I wanted to be in the witness protection program and get money for the rest of my life, that was fine. And they guaranteed me that if I didn't cooperate and mouth whatever story they wanted to have told about people, that I would never practice medicine again, and that I would go to jail."

Linda Evans remembers being harassed in the 1970s, long before her arrest: "In Texas, where I was working, it was very hard to distinguish between Klan death threats and FBI death threats and attacks. And so we never knew who was cutting our brake cables, shooting through windshields of cars, calling us up on the telephone saying they were going to kill us. We never knew if it was the Klan or the FBI."

The Brinks incident, in which three people were killed during a bank robbery allegedly carried out by the Black Liberation Army, provided justification for the FBI to renew its virtual state of war against Black and Puerto Rican nationalist movements. The Bureau also targeted scores of white leftist groups, such as the May 19 Communist Organization and the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, two public, anti-racist groups in which all the defendants, except Marilyn Buck, were at one time members. Examples of FBI burglaries of homes and offices of the defendants and their families will be familiar to anyone who has studied the Bureau: in a series of break-ins, papers were rifled, political items were removed, but nothing of monetary value was taken. What is remarkable here is that items that disappeared in the early 1980s have surfaced as evidence in the Resistance Conspiracy Trial.

In 1983, for example, the Madame Bink Graphics Collective, in which Laura Whitehorn worked, was raided. Art equipment was destroyed and political literature and posters were seized. A few months later, some of the collective's garbage was stolen—only to turn up at the discovery proceedings for the upcoming trial.

THE LENGTHS to which the FBI has gone to obtain evidence in this case is some indication of how little it ac-

tually knows about the Capitol bombings. In 1982, after the arrests of several demonstrators in a rally against the Klan, the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee initiated a public campaign to drop charges against those arrested. The 427 postcards sent in support of the demonstrators were fingerprinted by the FBI. Results from these fingerprint analyses were introduced as evidence for this trial.

FBI surveillance of the defendants continues even now, in prison. After he was moved to Washington, Tim Blunk remembers discovering that all of his communication with the outside world while he was at Marion had been monitored, recorded, and analyzed. "Every single letter that I have ever written or ever received is photocopied in my file: birthday cards to my mother, any kind of correspondence is being read and studied and developed into a file.... So I'm not going to share some thought about how [jail] might be affecting me, cause it's like collaborating in your own oppression...sort of like telling them what gets to you, what works the most."

U.S. intelligence not only monitors the mail and telephone calls of political prisoners; it has often tried to set them against sectors of the general population. Laura Whitehorn recalls arriving at the Washington jail: "The population in this prison is 98 percent black. So what did the FBI decide to do? They told the prisoners that we were charged with threatening Jesse Jackson's life. So that was their big plan, to make us look like white supremacists."

In other instances, political prisoners have been found dead in prison. "The most recent that I remember," says Marilyn Buck, "is Angel Cristobel Rodriguez, a Puerto Rican *independentista*, who had a six-month sentence for contempt for demonstrating on the beach at Vieques. And they hanged him in Tallahassee in a federal prison. So a threat is always there."

Meanwhile, the Resistance Conspiracy defendants await a trial that has already been delayed several months. Although judge Harold Green has granted the defendants' motion to dismiss the charges against Rosenberg, Berkman, and Blunk on grounds of double jeopardy, the government, intent on trying all six together, has appealed

the decision. Oral arguments for the appeal are scheduled to begin in early September.

If the defendants win the appeal, Buck, Whitehorn, and Evans will probably stand trial in the spring of 1990, and their comrades will be returned to high security prisons. If, on the other hand, the government wins its argument to try the six together, the issue will likely be taken to the Supreme Court.

THE RESISTANCE CONSPIRACY case will probably unearth in the Left profound questions about the nature of justice and of criminality in our society. While the Contra war and other acts of U.S. aggression have produced "heroes" in the Reagan and Bush administrations, those who have radically opposed such policies have been functionally "disappeared" in U.S. prisons. This trial, in attempting to criminalize the activism of these six defendants, may well succeed in isolating them from their progressive movements. Or it may compel us in progressive movements to find out for ourselves just who these people—and other political prisoners—are: how they affect our shared political concerns; what they could mean to our own deepest hopes for social change. Yet, until we can see beyond the government's designation of them as "terrorists," we will remain separated from these prisoners—and they will be lost to us. Z

For more information, write: Emergency Committee to Defend the Human and Legal Rights of Political Prisoners, POB 28191, Washington, DC 20038, or Freedom Now, 666 Broadway, 7th Floor, NYC, NY, 10012.

Or write: Marilyn Buck #233-396, Linda Evans #233-411, Susan Rosenberg #233-412, Laura Whitehorn #220-858, Alan Berkman #233-315, Tim Blunk #233-410—at DC Detention Facility, 1901 D St. SE, Washington DC 20003; Silvia Baraldini #05125-054 at MCC, 150 Park Row, New York, NY 10007; Alejandrina Torres #92052-024, MCC, San Diego, CA 92101.

Photos for this article, other than on page 87, are by Patsy Lynch.

impounding property of Palestinians

JERUSALEM — The Israeli army said yesterday that it will begin impounding property or sealing homes belonging to the parents of Palestinian children who threw rocks at soldiers in the occupied territories.

Faced with the mounting frustration of troops forced to chase and catch young stone-throwers only to see them freed on bail because military law forbids the jailing of children under 12, the army has decided to penalize their parents by seizing property worth the amount of the bail that would have been assessed under previous policies, or by sealing rooms in family homes.

"If the parents pay the bail, after a year they get it back, with interest," a military official said yesterday.

"So now, in lieu of bail, valuables can be confiscated or a room can be sealed for a period of time."

But Jonathan Kuttah, a Palestinian lawyer who has defended parents fined for their children's activities, said he had "never heard of a Palestinian parent getting their money back."

In an interview last month, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said that 85 per cent of the uprising's violence was rock-throwing and that 60 per cent of that was carried out by children 13 or younger.

The army admits that stone-throwing among the thousands of children who wander Palestinian refugee camps and villages is almost always spontaneous and beyond the control of parents or adults.

Still, the military has tried to deter the children in the past by fining, arresting and jailing their mothers and fathers.

In May 1988 the army began enforcing a law that said parents could be held responsible if they did not prevent their children from participating in street demonstrations.

But before a parent could pay a fine or serve a brief jail sentence for acts committed by one child, another son or daughter would be arrested for hurling rocks.

Soon Palestinian parents were facing huge fines they could not afford and the army was forced to jail people repeatedly.

After a few months, the army quietly abandoned its policy of fining and arresting parents.

"People weren't paying the fines, so the army has come up with this new law of grabbing property," Kuttah said yesterday.

THE GAZETTE, MONTREAL, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1990

Bombardier officials baffled by IRA bombings at Shorts

ALLAN SWIFT
CANADIAN PRESS

Bombardier Inc. officials say they are puzzled by a bomb, set by the Irish Republican Army, which exploded yesterday at a Belfast aircraft and missile factory owned by the Montreal firm.

It was the third bombing at the plant in seven months.

No one was hurt, but Bombardier officials say they are baffled by attacks on the Short Brothers complex, since it was not an IRA target before Bombardier purchased Shorts from the British government last June.

The IRA issued a statement later saying there would be further attacks on the sprawling plant but that no warnings would be issued.

Hélène Crevier, a Bombardier official, said Shorts had already taken measures to reinforce security following the previous bombings in November and July. "The security is in place, there are improvements that could probably be made, but it is already very good."

Crevier said Bombardier has no idea why Shorts is a target. The latest incident came the day after Shorts announced a \$150-million contract to supply components for the Boeing 747 and 757 commercial airplanes.

"Bombardier said right at the start that it respected the policy of equal opportunity employment," added Crevier, responding to allegations that Shorts, largest employer in the majority Protestant province, discriminated against hiring Roman Catholics.

However, the terrorist IRA has in recent years targeted contractors who supply the British armed forces.

The bomb, which Belfast police said did minimal damage, exploded in the hangar where Shorts builds the two-seater, Tucano turbo-prop trainer for the Royal Air Force.

The IRA said in its statement that Shorts's workers are "no different to (other) contractors and workers providing labor, materials and services for the British Crown forces. They must recognize the consequences of their involvement in such work." A Belfast radio station said the IRA telephoned 22 minutes before the blast to warn that three, nine-kilogram devices had been planted at the north Belfast plant, which employs 7,000 people.

The British government sold Shorts to Bombardier for a fire-sale price of \$60 million, partly on the strength of the Montreal firm's success with aircraft manufacturer Canadair, bought from the federal government in 1986.

Aerial surveillance over Eastern Europe

Mtl Gazette Dec 22/89

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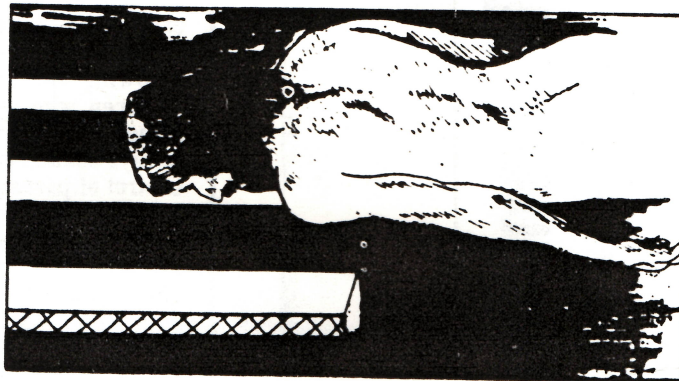
First published in Republican News, November 25th 1978

WHEN one spends each day naked and crouched in the corner of a cell resembling a pigsty, staring at such eye-sores as piles of putrifying rubbish infested with maggots and flies, a disease-ridden chamber pot, or a black, disgustingly-scarred wall, it is to the rescue of one's sanity to be able to rise and gaze out of a window at the world.

My cell window, fortified by thick concrete slabs which serve as bars, affords me with a view of nothingness, unless a barbed wire jungle and rows of blank faceless tin timbers offer an artistic appreciation unknown to me. It's what passes by, lingers, or materialises, in front of my humble little window that saves me, that can dampen depression, allow me to contemplate, serve as an enjoyable distraction from my surroundings, and provide me with a once unknown pleasure.

On a dreary, dull, wet, morale-attacking November afternoon, when one's stomach is empty, and when the monotony begins to depress and demoralise, it is soothing in many respects to spend a half-an-hour with one's head pressed against the concrete slabs, gazing in wonder, and taking in the antics of a dozen or so young starlings bickering over a few stale crusts of bread. Circling, swooping, sizing up and daring an extra nibble, continually on their guard, and all their tiny nerves on end, the young starlings feud among themselves, the greedy one continually trying to dominate and always wanting the whole haul to himself, fighting with his comrades whilst the sparrow sneaks in to nibble at the spoils.

But the ruler of the kingdom of my little twenty-yard arched view



THE WRITINGS OF BOBBY SANDS

of the outside world, is the seagull, who dominates, steals, pecks, and denies the smaller birds their share. The seagull takes it all. In fact, his appetite seems insatiable. He goes to any length to gorge himself. Thus I dislike the seagull, and I often wonder why the starlings do not direct their attention to the predator, rather than each other. Perhaps this applies to more than birds.

SUMMER

During the summer months, finches were abundant, and the music of the lark a constant symphony of sound and a reminder of life. The various crows, the odd magpie, and the little wagtails are still to be seen and heard from dawn to dusk.

In the late evening, when most of the prisoners of war are sleeping, when a hush descends, amplifying the gentle sound of a breeze, one can gaze upon the ocean of sky and the multitude of stars that seem embedded and ablaze in that black roof of nothingness that not even the moon in all her beaming regalia can penetrate, and one can dream a thousand dreams of yesterday, of childhood and happiness, of love and joy, and escape through make-believe and fantasy. The evils that engulf each day, forgotten about, and tomorrow as far away as the unreachable stars.

On many a summer evening and cold winter night I stand with only my old shabby blanket wrapped tightly around me, my breath pouring out into the blackness, in ghost-like clouds, just dreaming. Many a day in the eternal hours, I stand watching the birds and listening to the lark, trying to discover its whereabouts in that stagnant blue ocean above me that represents the outside world, and I long for the liberty of the lark.

I suppose, to many, a few birds, the sound of a lark, a blue sky, or full moon, are there, but unnoticed most of the time. But, to me, they mean existence, peacefulness, comfort, entertainment, and something to view, to help forget the tortures, brutalities, indignities and evils that surround and attack my everyday life.

Today, the screws began blocking up all the windows with sheets of steel. To me this represents and signifies the further torture of the tortured, blocking out the very essence of life: nature!

A few words I once read came echoing back to me today: 'No-one can take away from a person his or her ability to contemplate. Throw them into prison, give them hard labour, unimaginative work to do, but you can never take away from them the ability to find the poetry and music in life.' And I also realised that, here, my torturers have long ago started, and still endeavour, to block up the window of my mind.

Cruise test protesters back on Hill

By Lynn Marchildon
Citizen staff writer

Peace activist Eibie Weizfeld returned to his old haunt Saturday to help organize a protest against testing of American cruise missiles in Canada.

But this time the founder of the controversial peace camp didn't set foot on Parliament Hill. Instead Weizfeld, who has been banned from the hill, conducted the protest of about 50 people by walkie-talkie — from the sidewalk across the street outside the American Embassy.

"They call me a nuisance, because they want to remove a political irritant and they can't. It's ridiculous. There are more people up there than there ever have been before with the peace camp," said Weizfeld.

Weizfeld was one of the founding members of the peace camp erected on Parliament Hill in 1983 to protest the testing of the American cruise missile in Canada.

The camp was dismantled by the RCMP in 1985 and Weizfeld was kicked off the grounds three times in 1988 for setting up tables to pass out information. A judge banned him from the grounds for two years a year ago.

Weizfeld said he will continue to organize protests against Canada's involvement in military production until all cruise missile tests are ended.

"We're going to win," said Weizfeld, 41, with a worn Peace camp banner beside him and a wary RCMP officer a few steps beyond.

Later and out the RCMP officer's earshot he told reporters he planned to camp overnight in front of the National Capital Commission visitor's bureau at the corner of Wellington and Metcalfe Streets.

"Prime Minister Mulroney once offered that square to us if we would leave Parliament Hill," said Weizfeld.

Now a political science student at the University of Quebec in Montreal, Weiz-

feld also runs a cultural centre. He uses the revenue from it and a registered charity to offset the costs of peace demonstrations like Saturday's.

In a short ceremony the protesters gathered at the site of the peace camp

and renamed it after Peking's Tiananmen Square.

In China, "the government destroyed the students' tents and killed them," said Weizfeld. "Here, they destroyed our tents and arrested us."



—Pat McGrath, Citizen

Pitching tent: Peace camp founder Eibie Weizfeld prepares to overnight near Parliament Hill

The Ottawa Citizen Sunday Jan 21/90 - C3

SOME USEFUL PUBLICATIONS AND ADDRESSES

The CHILDREN AND APARTHIED article came from the Vancouver tabloid Artest #301-310 Water street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1B6

The article/cartoon on AIDS came from the New York magazine World War 3 P.O. Box 20271, Thompkins Square, NY, NY 10009 USA (copies \$4 each)

The article FORBIDDEN LOVE came from the english tabloid Attack BM 6577, London, England WC1N 3XX

The article on the RESISTANCE CONSPIRACY TRIAL came from Z Magazine 150 West Canton st., Boston, MA 02118 USA (copies \$4 each)

Information on the struggles of young people can be recieved from the excellent magazine Youth Lib available from Syndicat des Eleves, 2035 Boul. St Laurent, Montréal, Québec H2X 2T3 (for \$1 plus postage)

An alternative source of information on Britian's war in Ireland can be recieved from An Pholacht/Republican News. This can be ordered in Canada from the Irish Freedom Association Box 596, Station U, Toronto, Ontario, M8Z 5Y9. A twelve week subscription is \$20.

For up to date information on prisons and political prisoners in North America, send a donation and recieve the excellent magazine, Prison News Service from Bulldozer P.O. Box 5052, Stn.A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1W4

NEBELLES

Le journal qui saute à la face du monde

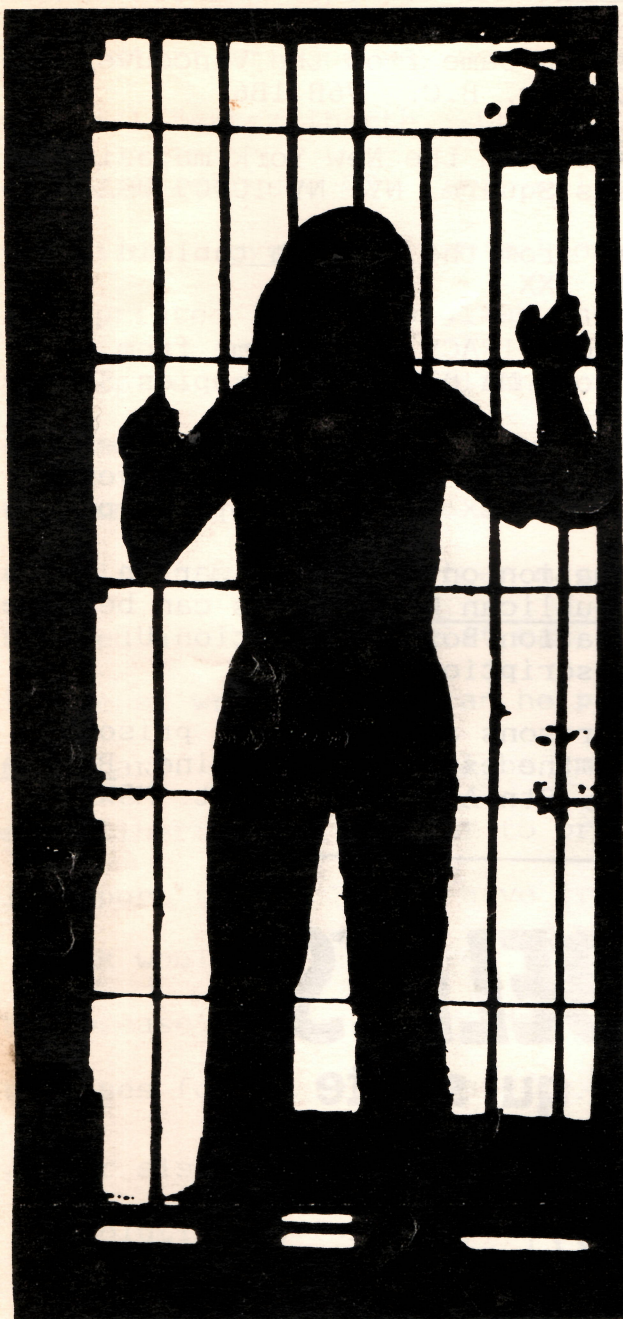
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